

Introduction

Achieving healthy air quality for all Missourians, that's the mission of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Air Pollution Control Program (APCP). The work of DNR to meet this goal can only be successful when it is part of a total team effort involving citizens, business, industry and local governments.

Local involvement means taking a stand on air quality, being part of the process of providing DNR with your input and supporting the regulations and actions that you believe in. It involves keeping up with the issues, taking note of pollution, reporting unusual emissions or smoke to the Department of Natural Resources and speaking up when you feel your right to clean air is being

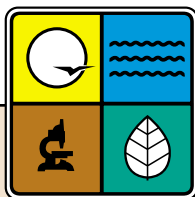


violated. It also involves doing your part with regular car tune-ups, using low solvent products, lowering your energy consumption and composting yard waste instead of burning it.

The state of Missouri is responsible for protecting the health of its citizens with an adequate margin of safety, at the same time achieving a consistent level of progress that demands

careful use of our valuable resources. Economic growth should include common sense strategies for reducing air pollution and protecting public health as industry, manufacturing and service facilities and jobs expand. Missouri's economy will not remain robust over the long term unless it functions in an environmentally sustainable manner.

When you learn more about the air around you and claim ownership of it, you take a major step toward a healthy life. Air is a natural resource and it belongs to all of us.



As a recipient of federal funds, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources does not

discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, or disability. Any person who believes he or she has suffered discrimination may file a complaint with the Department of Natural Resources or with the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., 20240.

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1998 Air Quality Highlights

COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATIONS

Involving the public in the process of making air quality rules helps to create fair, effective regulations that have broad support. In 1998, DNR continued its commitment to public participation by convening workgroups to help develop air regulations. A workgroup brings industry and the public together with government agencies to share concerns and exchange ideas while developing regulations.

The Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Odor Issues Workgroup was convened by the Missouri Air Conservation Commission to examine odor issues related to Class 1A operations, the largest size classification of concentrated animal feeding facilities in the state. The workgroup included interested parties from industry, environmental organizations and regulatory agencies. The workgroup met from April through June 1998, then made recommendations to the commission for changes in the rules to amend current regulations to reduce odor emission from Class 1A concentrated animal feeding operations.

The Construction Permit Streamlining Workgroup continued improving the Construction Permit Regulations and reviewing the internal procedures and policy for the program to review permit applications. This workgroup placed a major emphasis on improving the construction permit application forms and instructions. This effort alone


should save hundreds of hours for both applicants and reviewers.

The St. Louis Fuels Summit was held in June to discuss fuel control options for the St. Louis ozone nonattainment area, including federal Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) and several state fuel control programs. Summit participants included representatives from the St. Louis business community, the automobile, petroleum and agriculture industries, environmental and public interest organizations, government agencies, elected officials and other interested parties. The summit also included a 22-member technical panel of experts on gasoline production, distribution, usage and regulation as well as air quality issues. The summit was successful in providing a forum for participants to voice their opinions and concerns on fuel control and alternative gasoline.

FUELS

DNR continues to develop ways for St. Louis and Kansas City to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone (urban smog). St. Louis is required to reduce VOCs due to its status as an ozone nonattainment area, while the Kansas City reductions are in response to violations of the ozone standard in 1995 and 1997.

In the St. Louis area, recovery of gasoline vapors at fuel pumps is one of the most effective ways to reduce VOC emissions. DNR developed the Missouri Performance Evaluation Test Procedures (MOPETP), a comprehensive set of tests designed

A background image showing a large, ornate building with a prominent dome, partially obscured by green trees. The image is faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.

to determine the efficiency of gasoline vapor recovery systems and components. In 1998, approximately seven manufacturers of gasoline dispensing equipment were either testing or preparing to participate in the MOPETP program.

DNR also continued the operating permit program for gas stations in the St. Louis area. The program requires vapor recovery equipment to be tested to assure it is functioning properly. About 956 active gasoline stations in the St. Louis ozone nonattainment area are subject to the operating permit rule. The deadline for completing the initial permits was January 1, 1999.

In 1998, a major strategy to reduce VOC emissions in Kansas City and St. Louis was to use low Reid vapor pressure (RVP) gasoline. During summer months, low RVP gasoline evaporates less than conventional gasoline, which reduces emissions of VOCs. Low RVP gas was first required in St. Louis in 1994 and in Kansas City in 1997. Low Reid vapor pressure gasoline was used in both areas from June 1 to Sept. 15, 1998.

Following the St. Louis Fuel Summit, on July 10, 1998, the governor submitted a letter requesting that EPA require federal Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) for the St. Louis ozone nonattainment area starting June 1, 1999. Based on this request, RFG will replace low Reid vapor pressure gasoline as St. Louis' fuel control strategy in 1999. RFG is a gasoline formula designed to burn cleaner than conventional gasoline all year round, not just during the summer. RFG reduces exhaust emissions as well as evaporative

emissions and is administered and enforced by the EPA.

The revised Kansas City ozone maintenance plan, adopted by the Missouri Air Conservation Commission in February 1998, recommends that RFG be sold in the Kansas City area starting in 2000.

OZONE TRANSPORT

Air pollution can spread across geographic boundaries. Initiatives involving regional cooperation and study of air quality are becoming more common. In October 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a rule that will require Missouri to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), which is a commonly transported air pollutant contributing to ozone formation. In 1998, DNR began development of regulations to comply with EPA's regional NO_x control plan. These regulations will affect utilities, cement kilns and other large industrial activities.

CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS (CAFOs)

The recent growth of large-scale animal feeding operations is changing the way animals are raised in Missouri. These large-scale operations concentrate animals into a relatively small area and can produce waste amounts equivalent to those produced by many small cities. As a result they present a number of environmental challenges. Since the 1970s, concentrated animal feeding operations have been exempt from air pollution regulations. Responding to citizen and environmental complaints about odors, DNR convened a work group of industry, environmental and

regulatory representatives to study the largest classification of these facilities, Class 1A CAFOs, for possible solutions. The workgroup recommended amending the current odor regulations to remove the exemption presently given to Class 1A operations. Under the recommended amendments, existing Class 1A operations would be required to implement a plan to reduce odor from their facilities and meet an emission limit. All existing Class 1A operations would be required to come into full compliance with the limit by 2002. New Class 1A facilities would be expected to prepare an odor control plan before beginning operation. DNR will monitor these operations over the next few years to look at the specific chemical compounds they emit.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND RESULTS

DNR's vigilance in the enforcement of air law in 1998 resulted in 818 Notices of Violation (NOVs). Settlements were reached in 139 cases. These settlements resulted in paid penalties of \$501,900 and suspended penalties totaling \$188,150.

OPERATING PERMITS

After being one of the final states approved by EPA to run an operating permits program, Missouri became one of the first states to begin issuing operating permits. The APCP's operating permits program began full-scale operation in August 1997. In 1998, the program issued 51 Part 70 (major), 38 Intermediate permits and 46 Basic permits.

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Among the 1,012 construction permit actions made in 1998, notable major

level permits were issued for the Proctor and Gamble Paper Products in Cape Girardeau County, Panhandle Eastern Corporation in Pettis County and AECI in Nodaway County. Issuance of these permits involved extensive engineering review, publication of legal notices and coordinating the availability of materials for public review.

THE SMALL BUSINESS COMPLIANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Section 507 of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments requires states to implement a three-component program to assist small businesses in complying with the air regulations. This is commonly called the small business assistance program. The three components consist of the small business ombudsman, the technical assistance function to small businesses and the compliance advisory panel. In Missouri, the compliance advisory panel is known as the Small Business Compliance Advisory Committee (SBCAC).

The SBCAC is comprised of seven members: Two are appointed by the governor, one each is appointed by the majority and minority leaders of the House and Senate, and one is appointed by the director of the Department of Natural Resources. The SBCAC has the following responsibilities:

- Receive reports of the small business ombudsman of the governor's office;
- Evaluate the impact of the Air Conservation Law and related rules on small business;
- Review and assess the impact of enforcement policies on small business operations;

- Recommend to the Department of Natural Resources, the Missouri Air Conservation Commission and the General Assembly changes in procedure, rule or law that would facilitate small business compliance with the Air Conservation Law;
- Recommend to the Missouri Air Conservation Commission rules for expedited review of modifications for small business;
- Conduct hearings, determine facts and make investigations consistent with the purposes of the small business technical assistance activity conducted under Section 643.173 (RSMo).

Currently there are four individuals serving on the SBCAC: Bruce Morrison, chairman, St. Louis; Jack Lonsinger, vice-chairman, Excelsior Springs; Joel Braun, Fenton; and Scott Totten of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The committee began meeting in 1998 to become familiar with the environmental issues that small businesses face.

The small business technical assistance activity is performed in the Technical Assistance Program (TAP), a non-regulatory service of DNR. TAP's business assistance unit carries out the activities and provides administrative support to the SBCAC. TAP's mission is to provide information, assistance, education and training to business owners, farmers, local governments and the general public on how to control or reduce pollution. For more information, you can contact DNR's Technical Assistance Program at 1-800-361-4827 or (573) 526-6627.